

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A gas generator comprising an elongated, preferably tubular outer housing (10), at least one combustion chamber (26, 28) provided therein and filled  
5 with a solid propellant (30; 30'), and at least one igniter unit (16, 18) generating ignition gas for igniting said solid propellant (30; 30'), said igniter unit (16, 18) being arranged laterally and externally on said outer housing (10) and, in relation to said outer housing (10), a preferably radial ignition transfer opening (50, 58) being provided in said outer housing so that said ignition gas generated in said  
10 igniter unit (16, 18) flows into an interior of said outer housing (10) via said ignition transfer openings (50, 58).
2. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that an ignition transfer opening (58) is provided in said igniter unit (16) in a region of its fastening to said outer housing.
- 15 3. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that said igniter unit (16, 18) does not project into said combustion chamber (26, 28).
4. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that said combustion chamber (26, 28) has an axially arranged filling opening.
5. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that said  
20 combustion chamber (26, 28) is constructed without an undercut.
6. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that said combustion chamber (26, 28) is cylindrical and its longitudinal direction runs parallel to a central axis (A) of said outer housing (10).
7. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that between  
25 an inner face of said outer housing (10) and said combustion chamber wall (32) a distribution space (40) is provided for ignition gas produced by said igniter unit (16, 18), said ignition transfer opening (50, 58) opening into said space (40).

8. The gas generator according to Claim 7, characterized in that said distribution space (40) extends across an entire axial length of said combustion chamber (26).

5 9. The gas generator according to Claim 8, characterized in that said outer housing (10) has outflow openings (44) and an expansion space (42) for gas is provided between said combustion chamber (26, 28) and said outflow openings (44)

10 10. The gas generator according to Claim 9, characterized in that said expansion space (42) extends across said entire axial length of said combustion chamber (26, 28).

11. The gas generator according to Claim 7, characterized in that said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially inwardly directed indentation to produce said distribution space (40).

15 12. The gas generator according to Claim 9, characterized in that said combustion chamber wall (32) is formed by an insert which has a radially inwardly directed indentation to produce said expansion space (42).

13. The gas generator according to Claim 11, characterized in that except for said distribution space (40), said insert lies with an entire surface against said inner face of said outer housing (10).

20 14. The gas generator according to Claim 12, characterized in that except for 25 said expansion space (42), said insert lies with an entire surface against said inner face of said outer housing (10).

25 15. The gas generator according to Claim 1, characterized in that said outer housing has outflow openings (44) which are arranged in a region lying diametrically opposite said ignition transfer opening (50, 58), as seen relative to said central axis (A) of said outer housing (10).